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Terrorism Review

January 1999

Articles

Libya Maintains Ties to International Terrorist Activity

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Libya continues to maintain the infrastructure and state institutions to support terrorism, despite its efforts to appear to be distancing itself from international terrorism to gain reprieve from the UN sanctions imposed in 1992. The External Security Organization, which is Libya's primary intelligence body and is linked to dissident abductions and assassinations, continued its active monitoring of Libyan dissidents worldwide. Libya still maintains ties to Palestinian rejectionists and other radical groups. In addition, Libya continues to refuse to cooperate with investigations into past terrorist acts—some dating back more than a decade. On the positive side, we have seen no indication in the past several years that Libya has been involved directly in terrorism against the West.

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Libya Maintains Ties to International Terrorist Activity

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Libya continues to maintain the infrastructure and state institutions to support terrorism, despite its efforts to appear to be distancing itself from international terrorism to gain reprieve from the UN sanctions imposed in 1992. The External Security Organization, which is Libya's primary intelligence body and is linked to dissident abductions and assassinations, continued its active monitoring of Libyan dissidents worldwide. Libya still maintains ties to Palestinian rejectionists and other radical groups. In addition, Libva continues to refuse to cooperate with investigations into past terrorist acts—some dating back more than a decade. On the positive side, we have seen no indication in the past several years that Libya has been directly involved in terrorism against the West

Terrorism Infrastructure Remains Active

Despite moves by the Libyan Government to reduce its terrorism profile, significant elements of Libya's terrorism infrastructure remain in place. Most notable are the state institutions that have provided cover for terrorist activity in the past. In June 1992, Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhafi publicly promised to close the World Anti-Imperialism Center (Mathaba) and the World Islamic Call Society (WICS)—both used as cover organizations for past terrorist activities—but their offices remain open and are increasingly active.

- The Mathaba, an organization created to provide covert support to various rebels and "liberation" movements, continues to disseminate pro-Libyan and anti-Western propaganda and forge ties to foreign opposition groups and sympathetic foreign governments
- The WICS functions primarily as a conduit for financial and other support to Islamic groups and institutions abroad, and various reports suggest that



التوالت التوا

Islamic Call Society Web Site

Libya is using the organization to increase Libvan influence in Sub-Saharan Africa

The External Security Organization (ESO) is Libya's preeminent overseas intelligence organization and continues to monitor actively Libyan dissidents,

Shortly after the two

Libyan suspects in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103

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were indicted in November 1991, Qadhafi promised to reform the ESO, which has been responsible for the surveillance, abduction, and assassination of Libyan dissidents abroad. We believe that given the importance as well as the potential international repercussions associated with anti-dissident operations, Qadhafi probably is informed of—and continues to demand—such activities.

- In November 1995 'Ali Mehmed Abu Zaid, a Libyan dissident and vocal opponent of Qadhafi, was murdered in London by unidentified assailants. No compelling evidence was found to implicate Libya in the attack. One month after the incident, however, a senior Libyan diplomat with close ties to the ESO and who had previously threatened dissidents was expelled from the United Kingdom,
- The ESO was involved in the abduction in December 1993 in Cairo and subsequent execution of a former Libyan foreign minister who defected in the 1970s and was a vocal opponent of the regime

Libyan Support for Extremists

The Libyan Government continues to provide training, safehaven, and financial and logistical support to Palestinian rejectionists. Qadhafi remains vehemently opposed to the Middle East peace process (MEPP) and publicly has condemned the Wye accord, saying that terrorism would continue until Israel leaves the occupied territories,

Qadhafi has continued to give financial support to groups that oppose the MEPP,

He also has

endorsed publicly the terrorist activities of various

Libya served as the main sponsor for the Abu Nidal organization (ANO) from 1987 until recently

groups, to include the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS), the Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ), and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

Although some information indicates Libya is working to shut down the ANO's offices and training facilities

ANO members in Libya received paramilitary training including assassination techniques and methods for boobytrapping vehicles.

 Qadhafi publicly has endorsed HAMAS and PIJ attacks in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza Strip and has promised to provide financial backing for these groups.

Libya also supports extremist groups outside the Middle East.

• The Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), a Philippine Muslim terrorist organization and separatist group, receives funds, arms, and other assistance from Libya

• Qadhafi also is funding the Philippines-based Moro Islamic Liberation Organization (MILO) ²	to terrorist activity, its membership has expressed admiration for Palestinian groups such as HAMAS and the terrorist activities it engages in.
Although this group has no direct links	with work with the ongages in.
The Moro Islamic Liberation Organization is an organization distinct from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front	



Avoiding Accountability for Terrorist Acts

Tripoli does not cooperate fully with authorities investigating bombings that implicate Libya. Ten years after the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, for example, Qadhafi continues to provide refuge to the two Libyan suspects and has not affirmed he will allow them to be tried in the Netherlands as the United States and the United Kingdom have proposed.

 Libya has cooperated somewhat with the French investigation into the bombing in 1989 of UTA Flight 772, but Qadhafi has not turned over the six Libyan suspects to French authorities. One suspect is Abdallah al-Sanusi, a high-ranking Libyan intelligence official and Qadhafi's brother-in-law. French authorities have agreed to try the Libyans in absentia and recently informed the United States that the trial will begin in March 1999.

 Qadhafi has not followed through on his promise to support the German investigation of the 1986 bombing of La Belle discotheque in Berlin, which killed two US servicemen and wounded more than 200. He continues to shelter several former Libyan officials who allegedly participated in that attack.

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The Terrorism Diary for February and March 1999

Below is a compendium of February and March dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Inclusion of a date or event does not suggest that we anticipate a commemorative terrorist event

1 February 1984	India. Kashmir separatist leader Maqbool Butt executed.	
3 February 1963	Iraq. Anniversary of Ba'th Revolution.	
4 February 1948	Sri Lanka. Independence Day.	
4 February 1979	Iran. Revolution Day.	
7 February 1991	Turkey. Assassination of US Defense Department contractor Bobby Eugene Mozelle by Dev Sol terrorists in Adana.	
8 February 1963	Iraq. Revolution Day.	
13 February 1991	Germany. Red Army Faction fired more than 200 small arms rounds at US Embassy, Bonn; no casualties.	
14 February 1979	Iran. Attack on US Embassy in Tehran; the Embassy was briefly occupied and the Ambassador briefly held.	
14 February 1998	Colombia. Death of Manuel Perez Martinez, National Liberation Army (ELN) Leader.	
16 February 1992	Lebanon, Israel. Assassination of Hizballah Secretary-General Musawi in an Israeli air attack.	
19 February 1980	Egypt, Israel. Exchange of ambassadors.	
22 February 1969	Palestinians. Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine founded.	
23 February 1998	Usama Bin Ladin. Bin Ladin and allied groups publish fatwa proclaiming it is incumbent on all Muslims to attack Americans and their allies.	
25 February 1991	Iraq. Beginning of the ground war in Desert Storm.	
26 February 1993	United States. World Trade Center bombing in New York City.	
28 February 1991	Turkey. US Air Force Lt. Col. Alvin Macke wounded during a Dev Sol assassination attempt in Izmir.	

2 March 1956	Morocco. Independence Day (termination of Treaty of Fez).
2 March 1977	Libya. Establishment of Jamahiriyah (Masses' State).
3 March 1878	Bulgaria. Independence Day.
3 March 1961	Morocco. Accession of King Hassan to throne.
4 March 1982	Colombia, United States. Effective date of extradition treaty aimed at narcotics traffickers.
6 March 1957	Ghana. Independence Day.
6 March 1975	Kurdish region. Algerian accord between Iran and Iraq abandoning support for the Kurds.
10 March 1979	Kurdish region. Death of Kurdish leader Mulla Mustafa Barzani.
12 March 1880	Turkey. Birth of Ataturk.
13 March 1979	Grenada. Coup d'etat by Maurice Bishop (National Day).
14 March 1975	Japan. Chukaku-ha (Nucleus Faction) Secretary General Honda assassinated by rival radical groups.
16 March 1921	Armenians. Signing of Soviet-Turkish border treaty that ended Armenian hopes of establishing an independent state.
17 March 1992	Argentina, Israel. Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires was bombed. Hizballah's terrorist wing, Islamic Jihad, claimed responsibility.
17 March	Ireland. St. Patrick's Day (National Day).
20 March 1956	Tunisia. Independence Day.
20 March 1995	Japan. Aum Shinrikyo sarin gas attack on Tokyo subways.
21 March	Turkey. Kurdish New Year.
22 March 1945	Arab world. Founding of Arab League (original members: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Syria).
23 March 1956	Pakistan. Pakistan Day (founding of Islamic republic).
23 March	Sri Lanka. Poya Day holiday.
25 March 1821	<i>Greece.</i> Greek Revolution Memorial Day (celebrating beginning of independence from Turkey).



25 March 1975	Saudi Arabia. Assassination of King Faisal and accession of King Khalid.		
26 March 1970	Libya. UK Evacuation Day (day British forces turned over bases and departed).		
26 March 1971	Bangladesh. Independence Day.		
26 March 1978	Egypt, Israel. Peace agreement ratified.		
28 March	Palestinians. National Day.		
29 March 1992	Basque region. Leadership of Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) apprehended in Bidart, France.		
30 March 1974	Turkey. Death of terrorist Mahir Cayan, member of Turkish People's Liberation Party.		
30 March 1976	Palestinians. Day of the Homeland.		

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Chronology of International Terrorism—August 1998-January 1999

The following incidents have met the criteria for the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review. These incidents are the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism

Africa		
8 November	Angola: Fifty armed assailants attacked a Canadian-owned diamond mine, killing one Portuguese national, two Britons, three Angolans, and wounding 18 others. The assailants took four workers hostage, including one South African, one Briton and two Filipinos. blame National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels for the attack	
15 November	Sierra Leone: Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) rebels kidnapped	
	an Italian missionary from his residence,	
	Solomon Musa, leader of Sierra Leone's ousted junta and a faction of the AFRC, demanded a satellite telephone, medical supplies, and radio contact with his spouse in exchange for the release of the priest. Musa's wife was arrested in September	
	and is being detained in Freetown. Musa also threatened to kidnap a bishop if his demands were not met	
27 November	Uganda: Thirty armed Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) militants attacked a World Food Program (WFP) convoy, killing seven persons and wounding 28 others. An	
	eyewitness stated that the rebels also abducted six others, five of whom are believed to be WFP officials	
27 November	Central African Republic: A small bomb exploded outside the walls of the French Embassy, causing minor damageno one	
	was injured in the blast. No one claimed responsibility for the bombing	
26 December	Angola: A transport plane carrying 10 United Nations (UN) officials and four crew members was shot down over an area of intense fighting between the UNITA and government troops. On 8 January, a UN rescue team reached the crash site and reported that no one survived the crash and that the bodies of all 14 persons aboard the plane were accounted for.	
2 January	Angola: A United Nations (UN) chartered C-130 Hercules aircraft was shot down by a surface-to-air missile (SAM) shortly after takeoff. One US citizen, four Angolans, two Philippine nationals, and one Namibian aboard the plane died in the crash. blame the attack on UNITA rebels	
Asia		
17 November	India: Police officials reported that unidentified Muslim militants detonated a grenade in Anantnag, Kashmir, killing three persons and injuring 35 others.	
25 November	India: In Handwara, Kashmir, police reported that Muslim militants threw a grenade at a wedding party, injuring 11 persons	
9 December	India: Local press reported that unidentified Muslim militants threw a grenade at a group of soldiers near a bus station in Bandipura, Kashmir, killing three civilians and injuring 20 others.	

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	A bomb exploded in a shop in the Poonch District of Kashmir, wounding the shopkeeper. suspect that Muslim militants are responsible	
23 December	India: Muslim militants forced their way into three homes in three separate villages in Kulham District, Kashmir, killing nine persons, The victims were all close relatives of former militants who now support	
	the pro-Indian government militia. blame the attacks on the Hizbul Mujahideen	
Eurasia		
3 October	Russia: Twenty armed assailants kidnapped three Britons and one New Zealander in Grozny, Chechnya. According to press reports the victims were kid napped outside their residence, located 500 meters from Chechnya's anti-kidnapping department. The bodies were found on 8 and 26 December.	
Europe		
6 August	Belgium: Arsonists firebombed a McDonald's restaurant after hours in Merksem. No injuries or damage were reported. On 9 September the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed responsibility for the attack	
9 August	Belgium: The ALF claimed responsibility for firebombing a McDonald's in Antwerp after hours. No damage or injuries were reported	
29 August	Belgium: Arsonists firebombed a McDonald's restaurant in Puurs, destroying the restaurant and causing up to \$1.4 million in damage. The ALF claimed responsibility for the attack	
7 November	Belgium: In Deinze, arsonists set the back door of a McDonald's restaurant on fire, causing minor damage. suspect the ALF.	
17 November	Greece: A bomb exploded outside a Citibank branch in Athens, causing major damage. A telephone caller to a local newspaper said the attack was to protest arrests made during a student march.	
23 November	Belgium: Unidentified assailants fired at the German Ambassador's residence in Brussels, causing minor damage to a neighboring building. The German press speculated the attack may be linked to rumors that Germany was considering requesting the extradition of Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalar	
December	Italy: During the week of 7 December, the ALF sent panettone cakes laced with rat poison to two branches of the Italian news agency ANSA. Two Italian subsidiaries of Swiss Nestle were forced to halt production, costing the company \$30 million. the poisoned cakes were sent to protest Nestle's genetic manipulation of food	

29 December	Greece: A bomb exploded outside a Barclays Bank in Athens, causing minor damage. An unidentified telephone caller claimed responsibility on behalf of the Revolutionary Nuclei. the attacks were conducted as a protest against NATO and the European Union	
29 December	Greece: A bomb exploded outside the former location of an American Express branch in Athens, causing minor damage. An unidentified caller claimed responsibility on behalf of Revolutionary Nuclei the attack was a protest against NATO and the European Union	
Latin America		
26 October	Colombia: Guerrillas abducted a Danish engineer and two Colombians at a roadblock in San Juan. suspect the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) or Army of National Liberation (ELN) is responsible. On 12 January 1999 in Carmen de Bolivar, guerrillas from the People's Liberation Army (EPL) freed the Danish hostage. There have been no reports on the two Colombians.	
30 November	Brazil: A bomb detonated in a McDonald's restroom, causing minor damage. No injuries were reported	
8 December	Colombia: A Spanish newspaper reported that FARC guerrillas kidnapped one	
17 December	Spanish citizen and three Colombians. No ransom demands have been made. Brazil: A Molotov cocktail was found hidden in the grass outside the US Embassy compound in Brasilia. Authorities believe the device was prepositioned outside the compound for a future use	
Middle East		
6 December	Yemen: Local press reported that armed tribals kidnapped four German tourists in Sanaa and demanded \$500,000 ransom and improvements to local health and educational facilities. On 30 December the hostages were released.	



9 December	Yemen: Yemeni passengers on a chartered Egyptian airliner demanded to be flown to Libya. The Egyptian pilot landed in Tunisia and told the 150 passengers he could not fly the plane to Libya due to UN sanctions. The passengers staged a sit-in on the plane while it was on the ground in Tunisia. The plane and passengers remained on the ground for 15 hours before returning to Yemen	
10 December	Yemen: A bomb exploded at a US-run oil pipeline causing minor damage. believe that Yemeni tribesmen are probably responsible	
26 December	Yemen: Tribesmen bombed the Marib pipeline, which is operated by the US Hunt Oil and Exxon Corporation	
28 December	Yemen: Armed assailants kidnapped a group of tourists who were traveling on the main road from Habban to Aden. The victims included two US citizens, twelve Britons, and two Australians. On 29 December, Yemeni security forces undertook a rescue attempt, during which three Britons and one Australian were killed and one US citizen was injured seriously. British survivors said their captors tried to use them as human shields. the kidnappers belong to the Islamic Jihad. however, that there is no definitive account of group affiliations and that the investigation is ongoing	
31 December		
31 December	Israel: Unidentified assailants threw two Molotov cocktails at the residence of a US Consulate officer, causing minor damage. speculate that the recent US/UK military action against Iraq, or the deadlock over the Wye agreement could be possible motives for this attack	





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Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—November-December 1998

	The incidents listed below provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.	
Africa		
Angola	On 14 December in Cuito, local press reported that National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) militants shot down a civilian aircraft, killing 10 persons UNITA rebels attacked a camp for displaced persons in Kunie on 16 December, killing 100 persons, according to local press reports On 21 December in Luanda, local press reported that UNITA rebels placed a time bomb outside a military sports center. Police moved the bomb to an open field and	
	allowed it to detonate at the set time. No one was injured in the blas	
South Africa	In Cape Town on 18 December, a pipe bomb exploded outside a synagogue, causing minor damage but no injuries the bomb was similar to the device used in the attack at Planet Hollywood on 25 August, 1998. Following the explosion, an official from the Muslims Against Global Oppression (MAGO) warned that retaliation against American, British, and Israeli Embassies in South Africa would follow	
Uganda	On 26 November in Ancholi Bur, Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels fired at two vehicles, killing a police officer, a soldier and a civilian	
Asia		
Australia	A letter bomb exploded in the main mail sorting center in Canberra on 2 December, injuring two postal workers, according to press reports. found 21 additional letter bombs in Canberra, one in Melbourne, and two in Sydney. The bombs, which looked like floppy disk containers, were addressed to the tax department, police, Equal Opportunity Commission, and Human Rights Staff.	
Cambodia	Khmer Rouge (KR) rebels kidnapped three Cambodian health workers employed by the CARE International Aid Agency. The hostages were released on 15 December and no ransom was paid	
India	In Dispur, Assam, local press reported that a car bomb exploded on 18 December near the government secretariat, killing eight persons and injuring 31 others. The blast damaged the multi-story Guwahati Tea auction center and several other buildings in the area. The bomb exploded as the car refueled at a gas station; police have	

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	not determineed if the bomb detonated accidentally while in transport and if the perpetrators were suicide bombers. Several militant separatist groups have intensified their violence in Assam in recent months	
Indonesia	one person was injured when an explosion occurred at an automated teller machine in the Atrium Senen Shopping Center in Jakarta on 11 December	
Nepal	A bomb exploded in Kathmandu at the home of a Nepali minister on 15 December, causing minor damage but no injury. No one claimed responsibility, suspect Maoist guerrillas, who have conducted similar attacks in the past	
Philippines	A bomb exploded on a passenger bus in Zamboanga on 7 December, killing one person and injuring at least 11 others. suspect the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) bombed the bus in retaliation for the bus company's failure to pay "revolutionary taxes." On 15 December a grenade thrown into a crowded shopping mall injured at least	
	60 shoppers, No group claimed responsibility, but the attack bears the hallmark of the ASG	
Sri Lanka	The Deputy Defense Minister and the commanders of the Sri Lankan Air Force, Navy, and Army, escaped an assassination attempt by the <i>Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)</i> on 6 December in Oddusudan. According to local press reports, four soldiers were killed and 42 others injured when the <i>LTTE</i> fired mortar rounds at the officials' convoy.	
Europe		
Spain	On 10 December in Pamplona, local press reported a bomb exploded outside the residence of a civil guardsman, injuring five persons and causing major fire damage. Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) members or sympathizers are probably responsible.	
	Unknown assailants threw two Molotov cocktails at the Socialist Party of the Basque Country headquarters in San Sebastian on 11 December, according to the press, causing minor damage. <i>ETA</i> members or sympathizers may be responsible	
Turkey	Reuters reported a Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) suicide bomber injured 14 persons outside a supermarket in Lice on 1 Decembe	

On 24 December in Van, a suicide bomber detonated herself in front of a military bus, killing one person and injuring 22 others. The Kurdistan Peoples' Liberation Army (ARGK) publicly claimed responsibility Latin America Brazil On 30 November in Rio de Janeiro, a bomb detonated outside a state water utility headquarters, causing minor damage, according to local press reports Colombia On 26 November in Cali, local press accounts reported that a car bomb exploded in front of a savings and loan institution, injuring four persons and causing major damage to the bank and surrounding buildings On 27 November 1998 in northeastern Cauca Department, guerrillas attacked a village, destroying homes, a church, and causing major damage. suspect the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC) are responsible On 28 November in Puerto Asis, FARC rebels ambushed a police patrol. killing six officers and wounding four others, according to local press reporting On 30 November in Cocorna, guerrillas from the FARC and National Liberation Army (ELN) killed three soldiers, two police officers, and injured seven civilians. The guerrillas destroyed the police barracks and a bridge The Jaime Bateman Cayon Group attacked a police precinct, police school, and nearby civilian homes in Tulua on 7 December, causing minor damage but no injuries Peru On 19 November in Huaraz, Shining Path (SL) militants attacked a police post, stealing firearms and communications equipment. The attackers subsequently destroyed the community telephone center, two hospitals, a drug store, and a bank



Middle East

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On 1 December in Sidi Rached, armed militants murdered 12 persons.

suspect the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) was responsible

On 3 December in Khemis Miliana, militants detonated a bomb in an open market, killing 14 persons, wounding 24 others, and causing major damage. A statement issued by the Algerian security services stated the GIA was probably responsible.

On 5 December in Merad, local press reported armed militants, believed to be members of the *GIA*, killed seven persons and wounded five others

On 14 December in Jijel, an armed Islamic group shot and killed a leading football player, according to local press reports